

CLAIMS

1. A connection data change device comprising:
- 5 a connection data management part managing connection data for connection with another switching unit; and
- a change operation part changing the connection data so that the connection with the
- 10 other switching unit is changed to a fixed connection type or a variable connection type,
- wherein said change operation part changes the connection to the other switching unit to the variable connection type when the connection is made,
- 15 and to the fixed connection type after the connection is completed.
2. The connection data change device as claimed in claim 1, wherein said change operation
- 20 part changes the connection with the other switching unit to the fixed or variable connection type in accordance with a command input from an outside.
3. The connection data change device as claimed in claim 1, comprising:
- 25 a first detection part detecting the other connected switching unit;
- a first message compilation part generating a message controlling said change
- 30 operation part of the other detected switching unit; and
- a first transmission part transmitting the message to the other detected switching unit.
- 35 4. The connection data change device as claimed in claim 3, further comprising a first analysis part receiving the message and analyzing

contents thereof.

5. The connection data change device as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a release  
5 part changing the connection with the other switching unit from the fixed connection type to the variable connection type and releasing the connection with the other switching unit.

10 6. The connection data change device as claimed in claim 5, further comprising:

a second detection part detecting the other connected switching unit;

15 a second message compilation part generating a message controlling said release part of the other detected switching unit;

a second transmission part transmitting the message to the other detected switching unit; and

20 a second analysis part receiving the message from the other switching unit and analyzing contents of the message.

7. The connection data change device as  
25 claimed in claim 5, further comprising a release reason storage part storing a valid release reason for releasing the connection with the other switching unit.

30 8. A connection data change method comprising the steps of:

extracting connection data for connection with another switching unit; and

35 changing the extracted connection data so that the connection with the other switching unit is changed to a fixed connection type or a variable connection type,

wherein the connection to the other switching unit is changed to the variable connection type when the connection is made, and to the fixed connection type after the connection is completed.

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9. A switching unit comprising:

a connection data management part managing connection data for connection with another switching unit; and

10 a change operation part changing the connection data so that the connection with the other switching unit is changed to a fixed connection type or a variable connection type,

wherein said change operation part changes  
15 the connection to the other switching unit to the variable connection type when the connection is made, and to the fixed connection type after the connection is completed.

20 10. The switching unit as claimed in claim 9, further comprising:

a first detection part detecting the other connected switching unit;

a first message compilation part  
25 generating a message controlling said change operation part of the other detected switching unit;

a first transmission part transmitting the message to the other detected switching unit; and

a first analysis part receiving the  
30 message and analyzing contents thereof.

11. The switching unit as claimed in claim 9, further comprising:

a release part changing the connection  
35 with the other switching unit from the fixed connection type to the variable connection type and releasing the connection with the other switching

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